## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

KRAUSZ INDUSTRIES, LTD,

Plaintiff,

v.

ROMAC INDUSTRIES, INC., et al.,

Defendants.

No. C10-1204RSL

ORDER AWARDING FEES AND COSTS

This matter comes before the Court on a CR 37 Joint Submission Regarding Motion to Compel and For Sanctions. Dkt. #150. On August 10, 2011, the Court GRANTED in part plaintiff Krausz Industries LTD's motion to compel and for sanctions. Dkt. #165. The Court ordered plaintiff to provide evidence of its costs and fees associated with the 30(b)(6) deposition and motion to compel. The Court also ordered plaintiff to file a supplemental memoranda identifying the documents it challenges on the basis of attorney-client privilege and/or work product doctrine.

On August 19, 2011, plaintiff filed a supplemental memoranda stating that the issue of the withheld documents on the basis of privilege and/or work-product has been mooted by defendant Romac Industries, Inc.'s recent production of approximately 1,000 documents. Accordingly, the only issue remaining before the Court is the fee award.

In the August 10, 2011 Order, the Court found that Romac's 30(b)(6) deponents were wholly unprepared for topics 3 and 8 and that Romac's production of an unprepared witness was tantamount to a failure to appear entitling it to reasonable fees and costs. Dkt. #165; see Black Horse Lane Assoc., L.P. v. Dow Chem. Corp., 228 F.3d 275, 304 (3d Cir. 2000); Resolution Trust Corp. v S. Union Co., Inc., 985 F.2d 196, 197 (5th Cir. 1993).

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On August 15, 2011, plaintiff submitted a declaration in support of its motion for sanctions detailing the fees and costs incurred. Plaintiff seeks the following amounts in fees and costs: (1) \$14,384.50 in fees for the deposition and the motion for sanctions; (2) \$313.40 flight cost for the deposition; (3) \$197.43 additional costs associated with the deposition; and (4) \$2,353.35 court reporter costs.

- 1. The fees requested in category 1 are not reasonable. With respect to the deposition, the Court finds that 9.5 hours is reasonable for preparing and taking the approximately 6.5 hour deposition by Mr. Keyes. The Court also finds that 3 hours is reasonable time spent by Ms. Wood assisting and preparing for the deposition. With respect to the fees incurred in the motion to compel and for sanctions, the Court finds that 7 hours spent by Mr. Keyes researching, drafting, editing, and conferring with opposing counsel on the CR37 submission is reasonable. The Court also finds that 3.7 hours spent by Ms. Wood preparing exhibits, editing, finalizing, and e-filing the motion is reasonable. The time spent by Mr. Greenswag reviewing and revising the motion is duplicative. Accordingly, the Court reduces the amount for category 1 to \$9,175.00.
- 2. The Court finds that the flight cost (\$313.40) Mr. Keyes incurred for the deposition is reasonable.
- 3. Mr. Keyes seeks reimbursement for his food, beverage and transportation expenses. These are not reasonable expenses that were caused by the failure to appear. Mr. Keyes would have eaten regardless of location, and he could have taken the Sound Transit Link Light Rail from the airport to downtown Seattle. Accordingly, the Court denies this category of expenses.
  - 4. The Court finds that the court reporter costs (\$2,353.35) are reasonable.

For all the foregoing reasons, and the reasons stated in the Court's prior Order, the Court GRANTS plaintiff's motion for sanctions in the amount of \$11,841.75.

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Robert S. Lasnik

United States District Judge